The 1988 AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, the 88th in the series, continues to offer a unique chronicle of developments in areas of concern to Jews around the world.


Articles covering Jewish life in the United States are "Intergroup Relations," by Earl Raab; "The United States, Israel, and the Middle East," by Kenneth Jacobson; and "Jewish Communal Affairs," by Lawrence Grossman. Updated estimates for the U.S. Jewish population are provided by Barry A. Kosmin, Paul Ritterband, and Jeffrey Scheckner, who also offer an essay, "Counting Jewish Populations: Methods and Problems."

Jewish life around the world is reported on in a series of articles about Israel, Canada, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, West Germany, East Germany, the Soviet Union, the countries of the Soviet bloc, and Australia. New estimates for the world Jewish population are provided by U.O. Schmelz and Sergio Della Pergola.

(Continued on back flap)
Preface

Two articles on the Jews of South Africa are featured in the present volume. The first, by Gideon Shimoni, examines the paradoxes and pressures in the situation of South African Jewry—a privileged minority in a society based on racial discrimination. Shimoni traces changes in Jewish attitudes to the apartheid system over the years, describes responses to the present crisis, and discusses prospects for the future. In the second article, Sergio DellaPergola and Allie A. Dubb present a comprehensive analysis of the social and demographic characteristics of the South African Jewish community—similar in many ways to other Western Jewish communities, yet distinctive.

The regular articles on Jewish life in the United States are written this year by new contributors: Earl Raab on "Intergroup Relations" and Kenneth Jacobson on "The United States, Israel, and the Middle East." "Jewish Communal Affairs," prepared by Lawrence Grossman, is a new feature that will, it is hoped, appear regularly from now on. The section on U.S. Jewish population, which presents 1987 estimates, is again provided by a team of researchers associated with the North American Jewish Data Bank: Barry A. Kosmin, Paul Ritterband, and Jeffrey Scheckner. Accompanying the estimates is an essay describing the methods used to count Jews in the United States.

The reports on Jewish communities abroad are augmented this year by articles on Australia, Italy, and Austria, the last an account of the election of Kurt Waldheim and its effect on the country's small Jewish community. Updated population estimates, as of 1986, are presented for Jewish communities around the world.

Carefully compiled directories of national Jewish organizations, periodicals, and federations and welfare funds, as well as religious calendars and obituary notices, round out the 1988 AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK.

We note with sorrow the death in June 1987 of Arnold Mandel, distinguished French writer on Jewish affairs, novelist, and critic, who contributed the article on France to this publication for over a quarter of a century, beginning in the 1961 volume.

We are very grateful to Michele Anish and Diane Hodges for their proofreading efforts and to Diane Hodges for compiling the index. We also acknowledge the aid of Cyma M. Horowitz, director of the Blaustein Library, Lotte Zajac, and all our other co-workers in Information and Research Services.

The Editors
HENRIETTE BOAS: journalist, Amsterdam, Holland.

SUSAN BURES: editor, Australian Jewish Times, Sydney, Australia.

SERGIO DELLAPERGOLA: director, Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

SIMONETTA DELLA SETA: Jerusalem correspondent, Il Giornale, Italy.

ALLIE A. DUBB: former director, African Studies Institute, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa.

ZVI GITELMAN: professor, political science, University of Michigan.

LAWRENCE GROSSMAN: director of publications, American Jewish Committee, New York.

NELLY HANSSON: researcher in political science and sociology, Paris, France.

KENNETH JACOBSON: director, Middle Eastern Affairs, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, New York.


BARRY A. KOSMIN: director, North American Jewish Data Bank, Graduate School, City University of New York.

RALPH MANDEL: journalist, translator, Jerusalem, Israel.

JOANNA NITTENBERG: publisher and chief editor, Illustrierte Neue Welt, Vienna, Austria.

EARL RAAB: executive director emeritus, San Francisco Jewish Community Relations Council, California.

PAUL RITTERBAND: professor, sociology and Jewish studies, City College and the Graduate School, City University of New York.

FRIEDO SACHSER: editor, Allgemeine Jüdische Wochenzeitung, Bonn, West Germany.

JEFFREY SCHECKNER: administrator, North American Jewish Data Bank, Graduate School, City University of New York.
U.O. SCHMELZ: professor emeritus, Jewish demography, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

GIDEON SHIMONI: Shlomo Argov Chair in Israel-Diaspora Relations, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

HAROLD M. WALLER: associate professor, political science, McGill University, Canada.